



For Immediate Release

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Foodbank Hosts 8th Annual Empty Bowls Signature Fundraising Event at the Santa Maria Fairpark Plaza

Santa Maria, CA—The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County is hosting its 8th *Empty Bowls* fundraising luncheon on Wednesday, October 28 at a new location, the Santa Maria Fairpark, Park Plaza. This unique event enables attendees to help fight hunger in our community by purchasing a beautiful, handmade soup bowl, donated by local artists and then share a simple meal of gourmet soup, donated by local restaurants including Chef Rick's, Ambrosia Restaurant, Jovi's Delights, Tratorria Uliveto, and many others.

Attendees take the bowl home as a reminder of the many individuals who do not have enough food to meet their daily needs. It is a wonderful opportunity for friends, families and co-workers to enjoy a fun luncheon while making a significant contribution to the Foodbank's efforts to end hunger and food insecurity in Santa Maria. In addition to the beautiful bowls and wonderful soup, attendees can take advantage of the wide array of silent auction items that are available to bid on.

Who: Foodbank of Santa Barbara County

What: 8th Annual Empty Bowls – Santa Maria

Where: Santa Maria Fairpark, Plaza
937 S. Thornburg St.
Ph: (805) 925-8824

When: Wednesday, October 28
11:30 -1:30 p.m.

Visuals: Colorful local artist's ceramic bowls, local community leaders serving local chef's soup, and Professor Bob Nichols of Allan Hancock College will be throwing bowls.

Local sponsors for this event includes: Bouna Terra Farming, Santa Maria Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Convention Bureau, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust, Party Place & Rental Center, Inc., Jolyn and Guy Bardi of Centruy 21, Verison, BoniPak, Byars Thompson and Buchannan Financial Services, VKCOY CBS12 and the Santa Maria Times.

About The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County – *We are the largest hunger-relief organization in the county, with a network of more than 220 member agencies and programs located between Morro Bay and Carpinteria. In 2008, we distributed over 8 million pounds of food locally, of which 2 million pounds was fresh and nutritious produce, and our member agencies used this food to feed almost 135,000 people For more information on The Foodbank of Santa Barbara County, please visit www.foodbanksbc.org*

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